

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In complete response to the Advisory Action dated June 6, 2006, on the above identified application, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 12-15, 17-24, and 26-40 are pending in this application.

With this amendment, claims 12 and 23 are amended.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 12-15, 17-24, and 26-40 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vaidya, et al. (6,051,805) taken with WIPO document no. WO 02/058878. The Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are not unpatentable over Vaidya '805 taken with WIPO '878.

Claims 12 and 23 have been amended to teach a welding shop optimization resulting in an increase in average welding shop efficiency. Page 13 of the instant application teaches that welding shop efficiency is expressed as the length of bead deposited per unit time. Due to these claim amendments, the Applicants respectfully contend that the basis for this rejection deserves reconsideration.

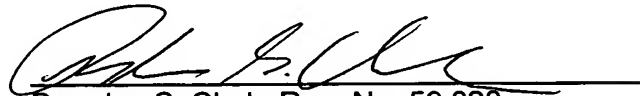
Appl. No. 10/630,241
Attorney Docket No. Serie 5856
Amdt. dated August 15, 2006
Reply to Advisory Action of June 7, 2006



CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is believed that the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe a telephone call would expedite the prosecution of the application, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: **August 15, 2006**

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 15th day of August, 2006.


Diana Guzman